

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

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-----106339 242258Z /23

O 242216Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132622

FOR ASST. SEC. HOLBROOKE FROM EA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CH, VM

SUBJECT: LATE DEVELOPMENTS IN SRV-PRC RELATIONS

1. PEKING HAS UPPED THE ANTE SIGNIFICANTLY IN ITS DISPUTE
WITH HANOI OVER VIETNAMESE TREATMENT OF ETHNIC CHINESE.
FOLLOWING IS QUICK SUMMARY OF TWO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS:

2. IN A NCNA BROADCAST MAY 24, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PRC
OVERSEAS CHINESE AFFAIRS OFFICE CHARGED THAT THE "MASSIVE
EXPULSION OF CHINESE BACK TO CHINA IS A PURPOSEFUL AND
PLANNED LINE OF ACTION CARRIED OUT BY THE VIETNAMESE
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AUTHORITIES UNDER INSTRUCTIONS." ACCORDING TO THE STATE-
MENT, OVER 70,000 REFUGEES HAVE "BEEN DRIVEN" INTO CHINA,
IN SOME INSTANCES AFTER HAVING BEEN TRANSPORTED TO THE
BORDER BY VIETNAMESE "PUBLIC SECURITY PERSONNEL." REFER-
RING OBLIQUELY TO THE SRV MARCH 23 DECISION TO ABOLISH
PRIVATE TRADE AND TRANSFER FORMER BUSINESSMEN AND THEIR
FAMILIES TO NEZ'S, THE STATEMENT NOTES THAT CHINESE

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAVE "LOST THEIR MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD" AND BEEN DENIED "RESIDENCE REGISTRATIONS." IN ADDITION, VIETNAM IS CHARGED WITH COMPELLING CHINESE TO CHANGE THEIR NATIONALITY "WHICH VIOLATES THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AND RUNS COUNTER TO GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW." THE STATEMENT CONCLUDES WITH A

WARNING THAT "THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT WOULD BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE CONSEQUENCES ARISING FROM THESE UNWARRANTED MEASURES."

3. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, THE EAST GERMAN NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED MAY 24 THAT THE CHINESE HAD INFORMED THE VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR IN PEKING ON MAY 12 THAT CHINESE TECHNICIANS PARTICIPATING IN PRC-FINANCED AID PROJECTS IN VIETNAM WOULD BE WITHDRAWN MAY 19. THE REASON GIVEN BY THE NEWS AGENCY WAS THAT FUNDS WERE NOW NEEDED TO CARE FOR REFUGEES IN CHINA.
CHRISTOPHER

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